

IAP activities sometimes yield publicly visible results, as was the case with one of the world's largest yo-yo's, shown here on its trial run last year.

## DSA housing survey draft report released

By Paul Schindler

Hitchhiking — a form of transportation frowned on by local law enforcement agencies — is commonly used by 40 per cent of fraternity residents and 25 per cent of other off-campus residents, according to a dean's office survey.

The Freshman Advisory Council (FAC) of the Dean for Student Affairs office has released portions of the Housing Survey Report in draft form.

A random sample of 1,300 students was used in the survey. The 669 questionnaires that were returned were sorted and weighted to represent the student population.

Although the report has "gaps and loopholes" according to FAC Executive Officer Pete Buttner, "we now know more than we did before."

Buttner said inclusion in the final version of any analysis or policy recommendations by or to the dean's office was uncertain. "I'm prepared to express some opinions, based on the data gathered in the survey," he said.

The survey was prepared after a number of hour-long personal interviews with students, in which living conditions and problems were discussed. The survey was carefully pretested, and Buttner says he has no doubts about its validity.

Even if the report does not include recommendations or an outline of new policies, it will present facts, Buttner said.

"At the minimum, the survey should result in some fine tuning of the housing system to provide greater satisfaction for those involved."

At the outside, he said, some major policy changes might be considered. Based on data gathered for the report, more dean's office help may be offered to those living off-campus.

The first released section of the report, dealing with transportation, found three-quarters of all fraternity members named

walking as their principal means of reaching school, with about half occasionally using mass transportation or a friend's car.

Off-campus students, 40 per cent of whom said they lived more than two miles from MIT, walk to school for the most part (40 per cent), though some hitch (25 per cent) and fewer use their own cars or public transportation (about 15 per cent each). Again, about half occasionally use mass transit.

The draft concluded, "a major negative aspect of living off-campus is transportation-related. Students living at some distance from the campus find it hard or impossible to participate in evening activities or to work on the computers or in the library."

It recommended that MIT support improved mass transit, but noted "there is no ready solution to the problem of inconvenience."

## Newbirth control method found

By John Hanzel

Birth control may be as regular as paying taxes by 1980.

That is the implication of research results released by Dr. Paul M. Newberne of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science. Newberne leads a group of researchers that has developed a slowly dissolving capsule which, when implanted under the skin, can deliver up to a year's supply of the birth control drug norgestrel.

The biodegradable capsule is broken down and absorbed by normal body action in the same manner as absorbable sutures which have been commonplace in surgery for years.

A similar system using a non-biodegradable capsule has been in existence, but has seen little use due to the need to remove the capsule when the supply of the birth control drug is exhausted.

## APO sanctions coedity

By Barb Moore

The National Organization of Alpha Phi Omega (APO) has passed amendments to its bylaws which legitimize the role of women in the MIT chapter of APO, known as the Alpha Chi chapter.

The MIT chapter of APO has admitted women as "auxiliary members" for the past 5 of its 39 years of existence. The active participation of women in APO was not approved by the National until their biennial convention, held December 27-29 in St. Louis.

APO is a national service fraternity, dedicated to campus and community service projects. At MIT, APO handles such projects as registration, UMOG, lobby 10, book sales, and ushering in Kresge.

According to Michael Matzka '76, a voting delegate to the convention, the MIT chapter has been fighting for approval for its coedity for four years and three conventions. Proposals for coed membership of some degree have been made and defeated at each convention held during the last four years.

The approved conditions for the membership of women stipulate the following restrictions:

- 1) Women members cannot hold regional, sectional, or national office.
- 2) Women cannot participate in the National rites of membership.

According to Matzka, the National Fraternity merely approved the conditions currently practiced at MIT.

"Our chapter has 'involved women' for the past four years, as the National states it," said Matzka. "The changes in bylaws have been coming in stages." One factor to which Matzka attributes the approval of coedity is the pressure on several member colleges to end discrimination of any kind based on sex.

The Rutgers University chapter of APO has been under fire recently from its Board of Regents for discrimination based on sex. The chapter had been directed by the Regents to go coeducational, although its National bylaws forbade such

action, according to Matzka. Several other schools across the US had received similar instructions.

"The new bylaws effectively limit women to active roles within the chapter," stated Burton Richards G, President of the Alpha Chi chapter. The changes in status from that of "illegal" members to "affiliate" members will cause "very few, if any" changes in the position of women in APO at MIT, Richards continued. "However, it does solve the problem of discrimination."

Before women were included at MIT as unofficial active members of APO, there was a "sister organization," Alpha Chi Delta, which was a women's service group. That organization folded about 1969, according to Richards, and the admission of women to APO followed.

The MIT chapter first elected a woman to the position of President for fall term 1973. Liz Wise '75 was elected, but the chapter was shortly notified that its official representative to the National (traditionally the President) could not be a woman. Alpha Chi then changed its chapter bylaws to create the position of Executive Director, the directing officer of the fraternity, who would not be the official national representative. Wise was moved to the position of Executive Director to appease the National, according to Matzka.

Reaction of MIT officers to the national bylaw change was lukewarm. Matzka stated, "I would have preferred full membership, but our national affiliation was in jeopardy. I feel good about this — it's something to keep us going, and we got 90% of what we wanted."

## Pass/fail in E.E. criticized at Dec. faculty meeting

By Stephen Blatt

Criticism of pass-fail by the Electrical Engineering faculty and proposed amendments to the Ad Hoc Committee on Grading recommendations highlighted the faculty's final meeting of 1974, on Dec. 18.

The faculty also voted, 37-11, to set up as a three year experiment, a M.S. degree program in Course XXV (Interdisciplinary Science).

The Grading Committee recommendations included a proposal that the senior pass-fail option be extended to include two courses taken in any of the four upperclass terms. Several members of the Electrical Engineering Department attacked freshman pass-fail during the discussion of the proposal, claiming that students who took 6.011, the introductory course in electrical engineering, on a pass-fail basis were not as well prepared for the second course, 6.012, as students who took 6.011 for letter grades.

Chancellor Paul E. Gray '54 summarized the origins of pass-fail, noting that the same prob-

lems of student adaptation to MIT existed before pass-fail was instituted as exist now. He said, "It has always taken more than a term to get used to MIT."

Peter Buttner, Executive Officer of the Freshman Advisory Council, reported that response to a questionnaire sent to a random sampling of students by the FAC indicated that "pass-fail is serving the purpose it was designed for."

Professor Robert Gallagher of the Department of Electrical Engineering proposed a series of amendments to the Grading Committee's recommendations, which have been referred back to that Committee and to the Committee on Educational Policy for further study. Gallagher's amendments were:

- 1) Registration must be settled by the 5th week of the term. A notation on the transcript will be made of any subject dropped after that time and before the drop date (the 11th week).

- 2) Students may "drop" up to six subjects which would not appear on the external transcripts at all although these six subjects could not include any required for graduation.

- 3) All other grades (including F's) would appear on the external transcripts.

The Course XXV Master's program will be conducted as an experiment during the years 1975-8. It was designed to serve both "as an extension of the undergraduate program for students wishing to do more advanced work in an interdisciplinary science area" and "to develop certain rather highly specified programs to provide training for people in areas with a strong scientific base but not directed toward research," according to the proposal of the Course XXV committee.

The Course XXV committee, consisting of members from each of the departments in the School of Science and from the Psychology Department, will admit students to the program and certify them for degrees upon completion of either a specified interdisciplinary program or a student-developed program approved by the committee.

# In Case of Insomnia — A Conversation

By Storm Kauffman

The Scene: A well dressed young man enters a tastefully decorated office to be greeted by a tall, thin individual wearing a conservative gray tweed suit, string tie, and starched white shirt. The young man, Jay Hammer, admires the roaring fire on the hearth, the wood paneling, the Rembrandt, and the massive mahogany desk. He sits down, perspiring slightly and a little flustered . . .

"Mr. Hardcase, I am so very glad that you finally agreed to see me. I have been trying to get an appointment for over a month."

"Well, Hamer, you know that the work we do here is very important. We are always very busy. It isn't often that I have time to speak with a young man who —"

"Hammer. Mr. Hardcase."

"What?"

"Hammer. The name is Hammer."

"It doesn't matter, Harram. Your name isn't important to me. Until today you have always been a page of statistics to us. Please do not bring personalities into the matter: it is too disturbing."

"Ah . . . sorry . . . ah . . ."

"Don't waste my time, Hiram. Let's get on with the business. Now, do you have your references?"

"Yessir. Letters from my state congressman and case worker. A full statement from my accountant. An up-to-date tally from my broker. An affidavit from my banker." Hammer shuffles some papers and hands them over.

Hardcase studies them with a disapproving frown that pinches his already thin lips into nonexistence. "Now then, do you have your character statement from your Internal Revenue Service officer?"

"Yes, sir. I have been very careful to follow the application instructions very carefully."

"Humph, yes, I see. Do you smoke, drink, use drugs, or participate in any immoral sexual acts? I warn you, you'd best be honest: we have ways of finding out the truth."

"Ahhhh, well, you see . . ."

"Don't quibble, Hanner. Do you or don't you?"

Drawing a deep breath, "Yes."

"Yes, what?"

"Yes, I do."

"Do what?"

"Participate in all four, damn you! You prying, you . . ." Hammer is standing and shaking with anger.

"Sit down, Harmon. We just have to make sure you aren't some sort of conservative, reactionary fascist or something. Can't be too careful, you know. You come in here wearing that sports jacket and knit slacks and how can we tell if you'll fit in? Appearances can deceive, you know, and you look awfully middle class."

"No, sir. I assure you that I am not middle class. In fact, none of my friends are even middle class."

"That's good, better, best. Now, the most important question. Do you or your parents have any money?"

"No, sir, certainly not. We followed your application instructions to the letter. My father and I quit out jobs eighteen months ago and have spent all our savings. We owe over ten thousand dollars to several creditors."

"Superb, great! We can get you all sorts of federal aid — grants, loans, scholarships. For every dollar you receive, Washington will give the school five dollars for supporting facilities. Well, Mr. Hammer, I'm glad that you meet our stringent admission requirements and that you cannot afford our \$9000 tuition and \$11,000 in associated fees. I speak for all of us especially your twelve fellow students, in welcoming you to MIT."

Jack Anderson

# Support for Israel is eroding

By Jack Anderson  
with Joe Spear

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WASHINGTON — In the backrooms of Washington, support for embattled little Israel is slowly eroding. Sources privy to strategy sessions at the Pentagon, for example, tell us that the brass hats, led by Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. George S. Brown, are petulantly complaining that U.S. military shipments to Israel are dangerously draining some of America's own defense stockpiles.

Gen. Brown, of course, is the same man who created a stir a few weeks ago when he publicly deplored the strength of the Jewish lobby in the United States.

Even Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, in private conversations, has become increasingly critical of Israel. He has blamed the Israelis, for instance, for touching of the recent war jitters.

He explained at a secret White House meeting that Israeli politicians began making strong statements to win votes. "As the Israeli politicians go on TV with tough statements," said Kissinger, according to the confidential minutes, "the Arabs see that and get tougher, too."

Kissinger also noted that the world, with the exception of the United States, was lining up against Israel. He is particularly worried about the Mediterranean area.

The Greeks have indicated that the United States won't be permitted to use its bases in Greece to supply Israel in case of a resumption of the Middle East war.

Kissinger is also fearful that the Turks, who have religious ties to the Arab world, may bar Israeli shipments from the Israeli to the Arab side. This could be disastrous for Israel, which depends upon Iran for almost half its oil.

Ski Chase

The Secret Service had a frantic Christmas trying to keep up with the First Family on the Colorado ski slopes.

The agents set up security headquarters in a portable White House van and special agents who could handle themselves on the slopes, including a radio-equipped ski patrolman, stuck close to the President.

He usually gave them an easy time on the packed slopes. But occasionally he led them down the more harrowing powdered slopes.

Gerald Ford is also a friendly fellow, who likes to mingle with other skiers. This kept the agents on the alert.

But it was the President's four teen-age children — Steve, Mike, Jack, and Susan — who ran the agents ragged. The Ford youngsters swirled down the back slopes through the powder, giving their body-

guards a wild chase.

Some agents, we are told, are longing for the less athletic Nixons, Johnsons and Eisenhowers.

Silent Night

Richard Nixon telephoned a few friends in Washington shortly after he was forced out of the White House. They remember his conversations as aimless and rambling. But in the past couple of months, the telephone calls have stopped. These friends tell us that, except for Christmas cards, they have heard nothing lately from the former President.

Joyriding

Auditors at the General Accounting Office have verified stories we have been reporting for years about the misuse of government automobiles. Everywhere the gumshoes looked, they found brass hats and bureaucrats flitting around the country, taking care of their personal business in federal sedans and limousines.

The military was found to be particularly abusive. The GAO found that "sedans" were used, especially by high-ranking personnel, for trips to restaurants, golf courses, florists, cleaners, officers' clubs and theaters."

Gaining Confidence

Sources close to President Ford say he is slowly gaining a strong grasp on the presidency. His ascendancy to the White House was so sudden, they say, that Ford floundered for the first few months. But now, they claim, he is ready to make some tough decisions and to assert strong leadership.

Strange Bedfellows

Fred Thompson, the former minority counsel of the Senate Watergate Committee, helped spark the investigation of funds contributed to the presidential campaigns of Democrats. Now the able Thompson has joined the Washington law firm of O'Connor and Hannan, where one of his fellow counsel is none other than Hubert H. Humphrey III, son of the junior senator from Minnesota.

In Fairness

The Associated Press reports we were high on the list of private citizens whom the Central Intelligence Agency has kept under surveillance. Nevertheless, we want to be fair. It was the CIA's own top officials — James Schlesinger, the former director, and William Colby, the present director — who put a stop to the illegal CIA spying on American citizens. It is also our duty to report that the CIA has the best record in Washington for accurate intelligence.

Back Seat

Pan Am, "the world's most experienced airline," has been charged with giving blacks an experience in diehard racism.

Civil Aeronautics Board investigators have quietly accused Pan Am of discriminating against blacks on crowded flights, by systematically shunting them into the coach section while whites are given a choice of first class seats.

Fuelish Fuzz

In the name of conserving energy, military police on some posts have been cruising around in gas-guzzling cars to monitor porchlghts at the homes of servicemen. When they find one on, they wake up the GI and make him turn it off. Meanwhile, servicemen tell us, the lights at some generals' homes continue to burn brightly.



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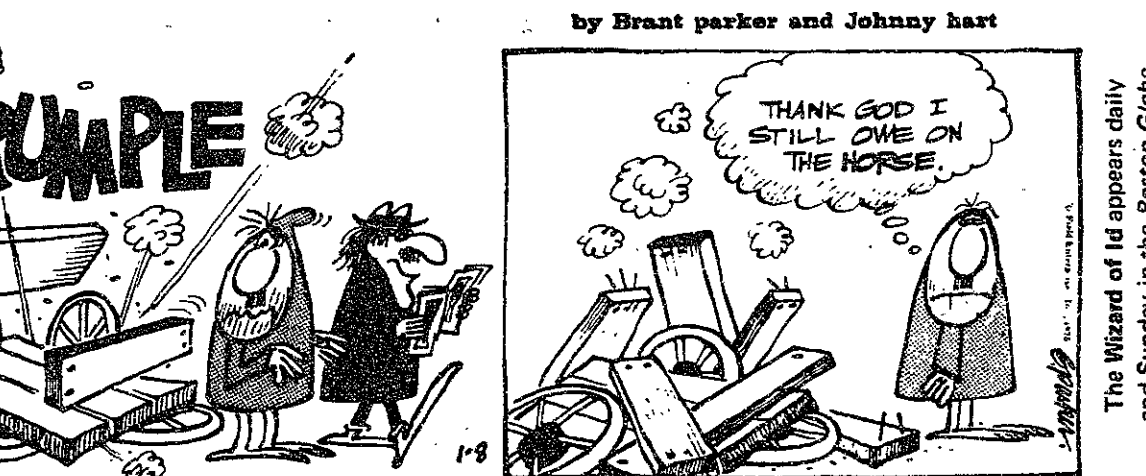
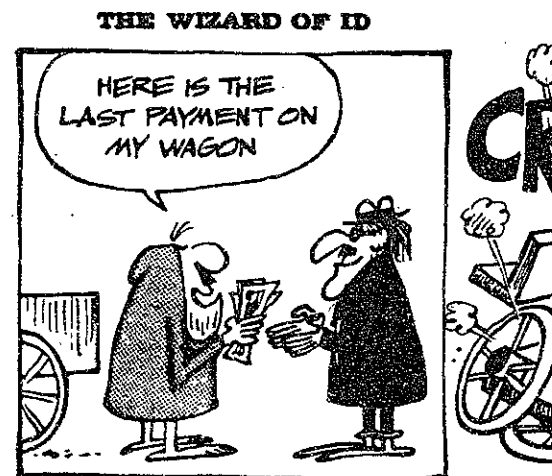
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# Viet student battles expulsion

By Norman Sandler

Nguyen Huu An hopes that in another two years he can return home to South Vietnam with a masters degree in electrical engineering from MIT. He hopes to help rebuild his war-torn country.

But An, 26, is worried. At present he is waging a personal battle against the governments of the United States and South Vietnam, which he fears might have different plans in mind for him.

The South Vietnamese student is facing deportation from the United States in what he calls "political revenge" by the South Vietnamese government for An's part participation in anti-war activities here and for publically criticizing the Thieu regime.

For more than one year, An has remained here without a valid visa, and now he is awaiting deportation hearings before an immigration judge in Boston.

An is one of seven Vietnamese students in the United States who have been instructed to return home by the State Department, reportedly at the direction of the South Vietnamese government. The other six are on the West Coast, where proceedings are underway.

An came to the U.S. in 1968 from his home in Gia-Dinh, under a "leadership" scholars' program sponsored by the Agency for International Development. He settled on the West Coast and graduated from the Northrop Institute of Technology in Los Angeles before being accepted for the MIT graduate program last year.

"We came here as students, and our main purpose is to get an education, especially in technology," An said. "But during the past few years, as Vietnamese, we are concerned about the situation in Vietnam. So, with many of my friends in this country have participated in the anti-war movement, and we have voiced our opposition to the corrupt and dictatorial

regime (in South Vietnam) and at the U.S. policies in Vietnam.

"We want to return home," An said, "we don't want to stay in this country for good. Vietnam has been destroyed and our skills are needed, so we will go home. Even if we do get deported we will go home. The government has said we might get a voluntary departure to another country, but we will still go back to Vietnam."

He says he is hopeful that by the time he receives his degree, peace will have come to

Vietnam, and his homeland can begin the long process of reconstruction. "I think Vietnam can advance very quickly when peace comes," he said. "We learned a great deal during the war and once the Paris agreement is implemented and personal liberties are restored, we can begin."

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# Sleep may slow maturation

Most people apparently secrete more of the substance that retards sexual development when they are asleep than when they are awake, according to MIT researchers.

Darkness, food, or assumption of the reclining position are other possible candidates for the increased secretion, the researchers said, in an article published in the Jan. 17 issue of Science magazine.

Melatonin, according to Prof. Richard J. Wurtman and re-

search associate Harry J. Lynch of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science, is secreted by the pineal gland in larger amounts from 11pm to 7am than at any other time.

Lynch's breakthrough was development of a technique to measure very small amounts of melatonin found in urine samples. Previously, a day's urine was needed for testing. The new method allows examination over

shorter periods. All six healthy adults tested in his experiment showed more of the substance in samples taken during sleeping hours.

Melatonin's role in sexual maturation seems to involve suppression of sexual organ development. Lynch's new technique may be used to determine whether a fall in melatonin secretion actually may be a factor in causing puberty.

## NOTES

\* The Brief Introduction to Law seminar will not start on Jan. 13, but Jan. 20, and will continue through Jan. 27. For further information, see Kay Hudock, Rm. 37-212, x3-4158.

\* Cambridge School Volunteers needs people to help as classroom aides, as tutors, with children with special needs, in art, science, libraries, and community schools. The only requirement is a desire to help. Call 492-7046 for an appointment.

\* "The Amazing Steve Dacri" will give a seminar on how to perform magic tricks on Jan. 13 at 4pm in 10-250. There will also be a free magic show at 9pm on Jan. 13 in Kresge Auditorium.

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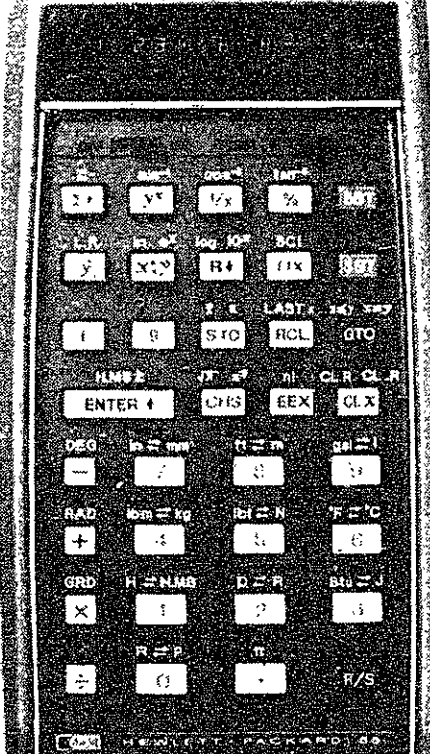
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Women are trapped in a caste system which regulates their lives, according to Gloria Steinem, an editor and co-founder of Ms. Magazine and one of the leaders of the feminist movement. Steinem spoke early Monday evening to a capacity audience in Kresge Auditorium.

Photo by Tom Klimowicz

## Steinem: castes trap women

By Margaret Brandeau

The main thrust of the Women's movement today is the struggle against a caste system which traps women in rigidly defined lives, according to feminist Gloria Steinem.

"Until we succeed in raising women from the caste system, we will not succeed in feminism," Steinem, one of the early leaders of the women's liberation movement, told a capacity audience in Kresge Auditorium Monday night.

Steinem linked racism and sexism in explaining why she felt that women needed to look at the world in revolutionary, feminist terms. Pointing out that racist societies in Nazi Germany and South Africa have considered women to be inferior to men, she called for the women's movement to create a new vision of a society in which power is not based on sex or race.

"If one is not born both white and male in this culture, one is not considered quite human," Steinem said. In fighting societal views of women, she

said, "we are not fighting for women's rights, but for human rights." Society has tended to force women to stay in secondary roles, Steinem said. Throughout history, women have been forced into childbirth she said, even when contraception is available to prevent procreation. While to knowledge of contraception seems to have been fairly well developed, it also seems to have been suppressed, she said.

The women's movement wants "the power to be able to make the decisions ourselves. We don't want men to grant us things, but want the power to grant ourselves things," she said.

Most women, Steinem added, suffer from what she called "terminal gratitude." Gratitude for rights that women have won and "power" that they have been granted, she said, tends to blind them "so that they do not

see that it is not really power at all." "If it is something that can be given to them," Steinem noted, "it is also something which can be taken away from them."

The women's movement is not fighting for dominance over men, Steinem continued, but for autonomy. Women, she said, can have no real power until they have freedom. As an example, she said that men should be "as responsible for children as women are," and added that she would like to see companies grant "parental leave, not maternal leave."

Women must re-think the way they look at the world, Steinem said, and should view the world in feminist terms. Everything from foreign policy and legislation to art and literature should be examined, she said, for the effects on feminism.

## Hard-core porno may go

By Barb Moore

The MIT community may have seen the end of the era of hard-core pornographic Registration Day movies with last fall's showing of *Behind the Green Door*.

Mike Dornbrook '75, Chairman of the Lecture Series Committee (LSC) which sponsors the Registration Day movies explained, "It's not that we aren't allowed to show it (hard-core pornography), but we've been asked to hold off for a while on really controversial movies."

According to Dornbrook, the agreement to clean up LSC's Registration Day film choices was spurred by talks with representatives of the office of the Dean for Student Affairs. Some homosexual film shorts, obtained by LSC through the Student Homophile League (SHL), were screened along with *Behind the Green Door*, and the Dean's office fielded a number of complaints about the show, Dornbrook said.

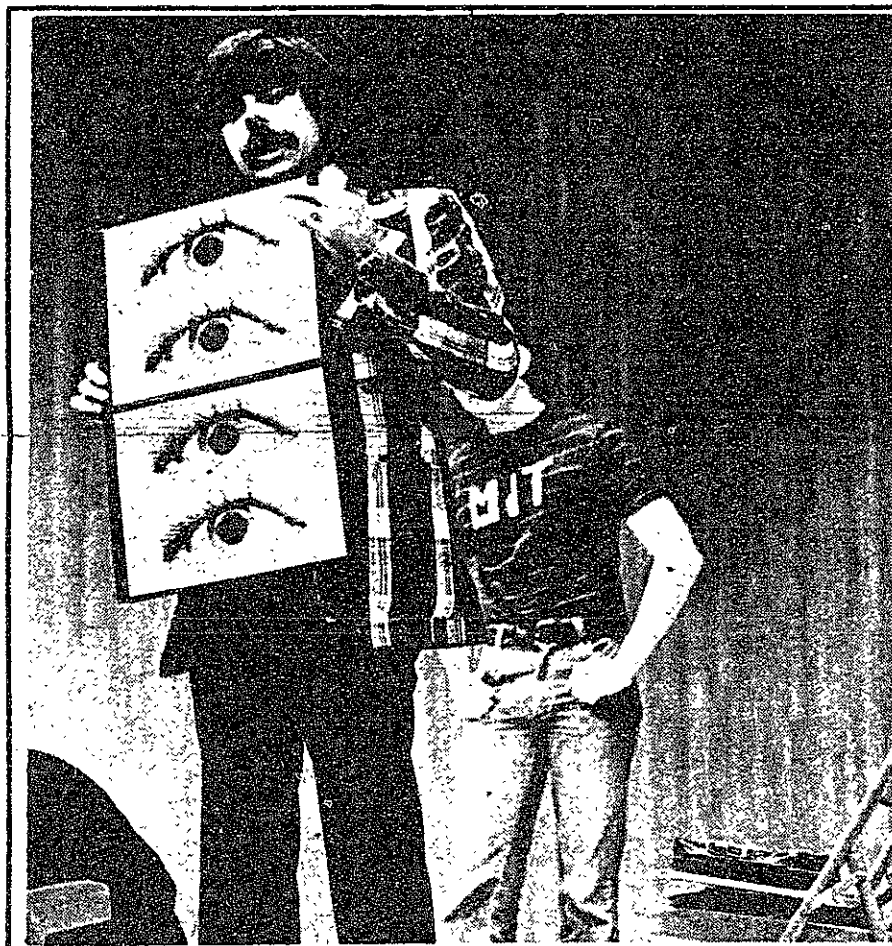
To compound the Dean's office problems, a story entitled "Tech Sex for Frosh Week" appeared soon after registration day in *The Boston Phoenix*, describing the shorts as well as the main attraction. The publicity caused by the *Phoenix* article was not appreciated by the Campus Patrol or the Deans, according to Dornbrook.

Dornbrook agreed with Dean's office spokesmen that this was not an attempt at censorship by the Institute. "The Deans and the Campus Patrol preferred that we didn't show it, but they didn't want to censor us," Dornbrook explained. Jim Miller '75, Chairman of LSC at the time of the showing, attended a meeting of the Dean's office staff and agreed to "back off on hard-core pornography of his own volition," added Jon Hartshorne, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

"If Jim hadn't suggested it (stopping hard-core movies) the Deans might have said; 'Why don't you ease off?'," Hartshorne continued. "However, there was no pressure on him."

James Oliveri, Chief of the Campus Patrol explained, "The situation that developed was that LSC showed *Behind the Green Door* and tacked on some real raunchy trailers that invoked a number of complaints around the campus." When the *Phoenix* article appeared, it implied that "MIT is the place to go on Registration Day because they are above the pornography laws," Oliveri continued.

Hartshorne agreed that the problems "reinforced the idea that we don't operate in a vacuum." LSC may have to abide by the pornography laws of Cambridge, and return to the less "controversial" soft-core pornography.



All eyes are upon Steve Dacri as he performs in his magic show Monday evening in Kresge Auditorium. The show was sponsored by the LSC.

Photo by Tom Klimowicz

## Admissions 1975: an uncertain start

By Barb Moore

Conflicting signals received by the Office of Admissions have confused the admissions picture for next year's freshman class.

Despite an increase of nearly 10 per cent in preliminary applications from prospective students, final application figures are running behind last year's totals, causing concern over a decrease in the size of MIT's applicant pool.

Peter H. Richardson, Director of Admissions, said he has no explanation for the apparent decrease, noting that after all the counting is done there may not be a decrease. "We should have at least 800 more applications in the office waiting to be counted," Richardson said, "but the question is, just how many more are there?"

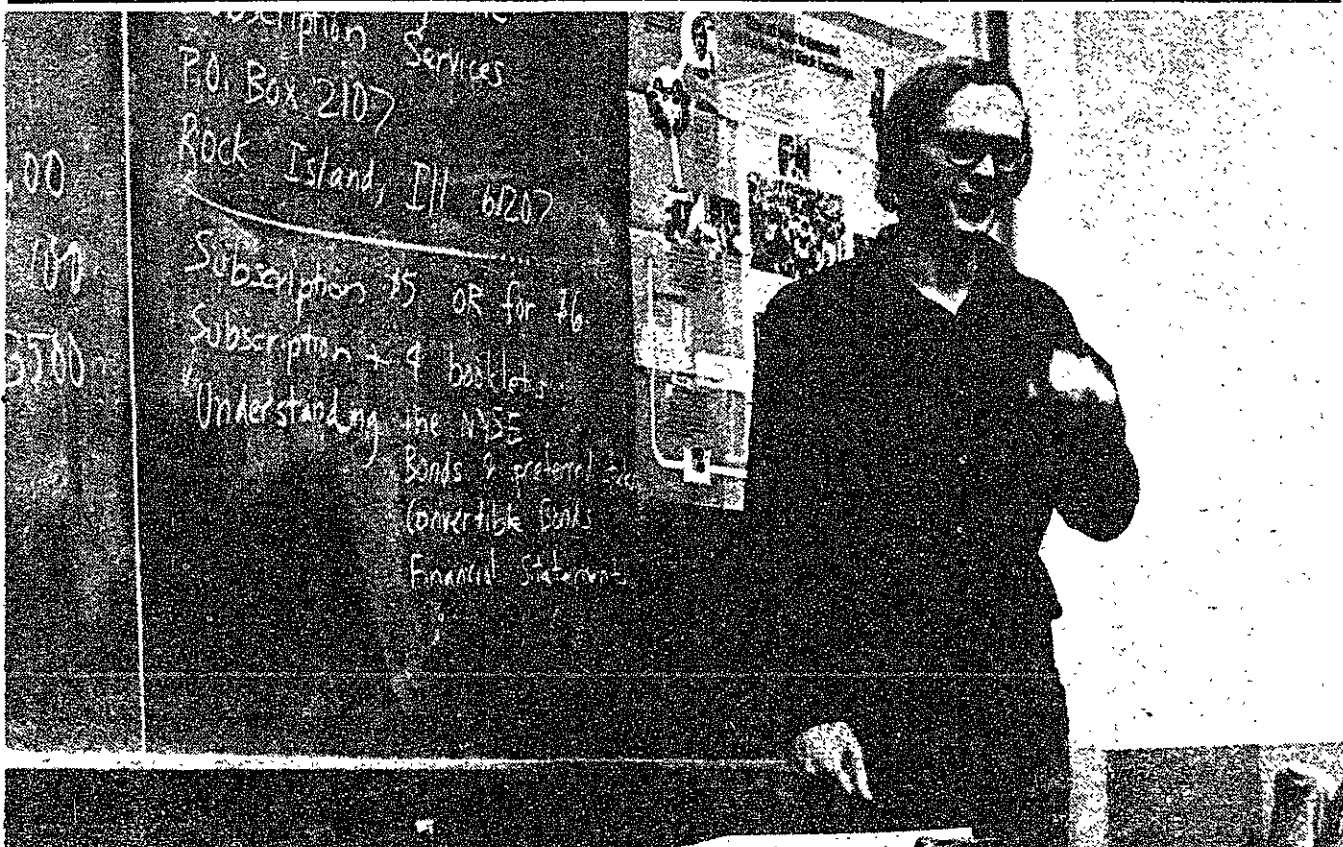
Each year several hundred applications are received too late to be included in the first count, according to Richardson. Last year, there were 3572 final applications counted on January 17, one week after the January

10 deadline, but nearly 4300 prospective students had completed applications by the end of the admissions process.

"The application deadline was moved up to January 1 this year, which may account for a larger-than-usual number of late applications," Richardson noted. The usual difference between the first count and the final number of applicants can be attributed to late applications and to the difficulty of sorting the last minute deluge of mail in time for the one-week count. "More than half of the final applications come in during the last two weeks before the deadline," Richardson said. "We can't predict yet with accuracy what the total number of applications will be this year," Richardson stated. "However, most of our signals indicate a drop."

William Hecht, Director of the Educational Council and Associate Director of Admissions, added that there is no

(Please turn to page 2)



It's not the best time to test the stock market, but more than 180 MIT and Wellesley students have been turning out twice a week to try to "make a bundle" at an IAP course on "Understanding the Stock Market." The course, offered by computer-science major Dan Fylstra '75, includes a gaming exercise which will allow each student to "invest" \$10,000 in the market. Interest in the course has been high, perhaps indicating that there is still faith in the market — at least at MIT.

Photo by Dave Schaller



# Applications total down

(Continued from page 1)  
certain explanation for the discrepancy between the number of preliminary applications and the number of finals received. "We could use the economy as a scapegoat, but we can't be sure what effect that has had," he said.

Preliminary applications are cards used to register interest in MIT, and serve as the initiation of the flow of application materials and information about MIT to the prospective student. Most of these requests were received by MIT in late summer and early fall, when the nation's economic outlook was more optimistic than it is now. Hecht and Richardson feel that some students who had planned to apply to MIT in the summer may have changed their plans

with this fall's deterioration of the economy.

One change in the make-up of next year's freshman class appears to be a certainty — final applications from women have definitely decreased from last year's record number. Admissions officer Sandra Cohen '73 anticipated a drop in the number of women applicants in November (see *The Tech*, Nov. 26, 1974), but still predicted then a freshman class of about 20% women.

"It appears now that our predictions may have been a bit optimistic," Richardson said. "We still expect more women than the total admitted to the freshman class of 1973, but I doubt if we will equal the 20% figure of last year's class."

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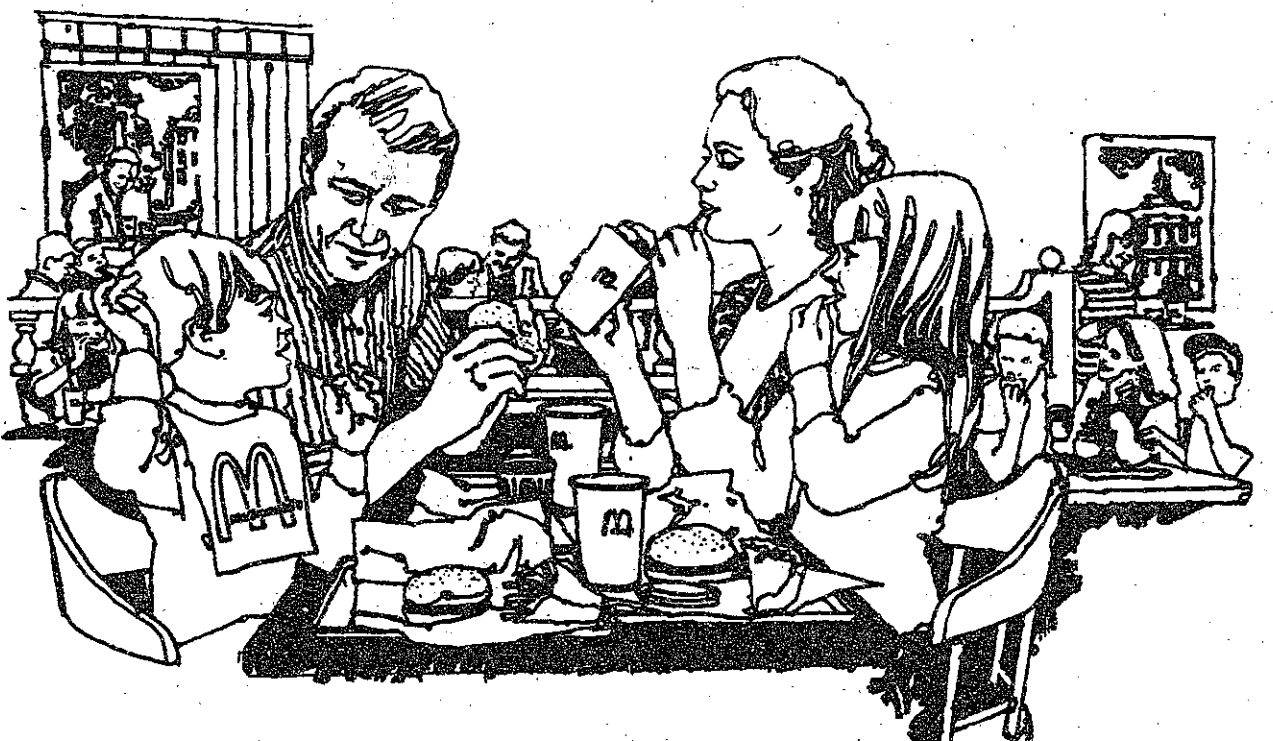
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## XXV gets new SM program

By Mike McNamee

Planning for a new Masters degree program in Interdisciplinary Science, Course XXV, has begun in the School of Science following approval of that program at the December faculty meeting.

Brochures describing the new program are being prepared for mailing to prospective students, and faculty committees in the School are being formed to develop special programs for graduate students interested in the "general science" department.

The new program, which will enable graduate students to design courses of study in a number of areas not currently covered by the other 24 academic departments, is an outgrowth of the undergraduate Course XXV program, which has been available to undergraduates since 1968. Approximately 100 MIT students have received Bachelor degrees in that program.

Students in the graduate program will have two options in designing their course of study, according to Professor of Mathematics Louis N. Howard, Course XXV Faculty Counselor. An "unspecified" program, similar to the traditional undergraduate

course, allowing the student to design a program in consultation with a faculty advisor. Committees in the School of Science are also planning "specified" programs to focus on particular interdisciplinary areas.

"The specified programs are still up in the air," Howard said. "I should say that they don't exist, since we haven't gone very far in working out what they will be doing."

Howard said that the specified programs would tend to focus on "applied science, in a sense." "You have to be careful in what you call applied science, since engineering is applied science to a point," he added. "What we want to do is applied science that the departments are not doing."

Areas mentioned in the proposal for the new program presented at the faculty meeting included Animal Cell Science, Science Education, Interdisciplinary Chemistry, Environmental and Applied Earth Sciences, and Clinical Chemistry.

Course XXV graduates are now being surveyed, Howard said, in an effort to determine what fields they have entered

since graduation. Although the results are not yet complete, Howard said that a wide variety of options seem to be open to the graduates.

"We've had a number of people go on to graduate school, in every field from biology to psychology," Howard explained.

Howard said that the interests of the students in the program have changed in the six years that the course has been operating. "Before electrical engineering became strong in computer science, we had a lot of people who concentrated on that here," he said. "Now we have a lot of students who are interested in all aspects of intelligence, who study psychology, electrical engineering, and biology — many of whom go on to graduate psychology study."

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# In Case of Insomnia — Random gripes III

By Storm Kauffman.  
There are times when the amount of service we get for our tuition (and our rent if dorm residents) seems practically non-existent. The student and educational orientation of MIT seems to grow less and less.

## Plastered

For the past three-and-a-half years, I have lived in Senior House, the oldest dorm on campus, and I have therefore become accustomed to housing inconveniences. However, for the about \$100 a month rent, I do not appreciate the fact that my room decided to attack me this term.

I'd noticed some cracks in my ceiling, but I was little expecting to be clobbered by a two-foot diameter (quarter-inch thick) segment of ceiling. Fortunately, it hit me on the head. I complained to my house manager about the imminent demise of the remainder of my roof, but as this was during the strike it was nearly a month of his and my delaying before the hazard was removed.

Perhaps being plastered would not have so upset me if I had not had further occasion to get steamed. Literally, steamed: over the summer the management had removed my radiator valve for repair. You guessed it; before they turned the heat on, they replaced every valve but mine. The result was that I awoke early one morning to find that a geyser was being born in one corner of the room. Low quality steam gushed for half an hour before I found someone to shut down the heat and replace the valve again during the strike).

Miraculously, neither I nor any of my possessions were permanently damaged (my head was always soft). I have missed my chance by now, but I still feel a regret that I did not try to sue the Institute for mental anguish, attack with a deadly weapon, and negligence. The success of such a suit is problematical, but it is certain that too many students take too much too willingly from the Institute. For what we're paying, they should be doing a better job.

## Registrared

The Registrar's primary purpose seems to be to keep track of students' records — i.e. perform a service for the students; but the piles of red tape, green forms, and gray petitions make it exceedingly difficult for any undergraduate who does anything out of the ordinary.

More and more students are graduating in less than four years. Last year, 79 graduates received double bachelor degrees while another 90 earned simultaneous masters and bachelors. Despite this, the Registrar is exceedingly backward about recognizing the status of these students. For example, they will not admit that an undergraduate student (me) can take graduate classes: the petition for such credit is not accepted until a student is a registered graduate student, which does a lot of good for anyone applying to another grad school or to an employer.

## Plowed

I don't know what we'd do without the snow plows from Physical Plant. Ever alert for the first frosty flakes, they magically appear to clear the paths along which no one ever walks. They throw up icy obstacles to block those who would follow their normal shortcut past the Great Sail. Or they try to speed passersby by chasing them along walks. As if falling ceiling and gushing radiators weren't enough.

Jack Anderson

# 1974 was bad energy year

By Jack Anderson  
© United Feature Syndicate, Inc.  
WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, insiders facetiously suggest, may have been speaking out of sheer frustration when he rattled his sword and raised the spectre of a Middle East oil war.

The year gone by was, after all, a tough one for America's energy planners. Consider what has transpired since the Arab oil embargo:

— Kissinger, the diplomatic superstar, has tried to talk the Arabs into lowering their oil prices. Summoning up his noted gifts of persuasion, he attempted to convince the oil sheiks that exorbitant prices would hurt them in the long run. The result: the Arabs raised their prices.

— On the home front, meanwhile, "Project Independence" was launched. It aimed at making the United States self-sufficient in energy production by 1985. But domestic oil production is down nearly five per cent from last year, despite record profits for the oil companies. Coal production has also been extremely disappointing.

— The voluntary oil conservation program has met with only mild success. The Federal Energy Administration estimates that Americans still waste as much energy as Japan uses.

President Ford will include some tough new conservation measures in his upcoming economic package. But unless he produces a master plan for the international energy problem, the crisis will only get worse in 1975.

### Fringe Benefits:

The unemployment lines are growing longer, but there is one group of jobless Americans who aren't suffering. They are the defeated members of Congress whose terms ran out on January 2.

Congress had thoughtfully provided a pension plan for those who fail to get re-elected. It contains all manner of clauses rarely found in industrial contracts.

Just a nominal contribution from their congressional salaries will qualify lawmakers, after they retire, for as much as \$31,875 a year. Pensions are also paid on top of any Social Security or private retirement plans.

And those who want to continue on the public payroll, if they have the right political credentials, can use the White House as an unemployment office.

The Administration will usually find an ambassadorship or some other political appointment for defeated but deserving Republicans.

### Hungry Americans

The world is slowly waking up to the fact that people are dying of starvation in

Asia, Africa and Latin America. A shocking 10,000 men, women and children starve to death every week.

The United States is doing more than any other nation to rush food to the famine areas. But efforts to provide food for our own hungry people have been scaled down in the name of economy.

President Ford recently announced a cutback in the food stamp program. This will hurt the sick and elderly the most. Under the new plan for example, a retired worker living on a \$150 monthly Social Security check would have to pay \$45 for \$46 worth of food stamps. He would, in other words, save only a dollar.

The government will also stop publicizing the program. Those in remote areas or those who are undereducated — as many of the hungry are — now must find out how to get food stamps by themselves, somehow.

### War in Lebanon?

State Department insiders now believe the next major battlefield in the Middle East could be Lebanon, an Arab country which has traditionally shunned the conflict with Israel.

Since 1967, our sources estimate, the Israelis, in search of Palestinian guerrillas, have carried out nearly 200 "incursions" into Lebanon. The attacks have escalated in recent months. Now, say the experts, Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid al-Solh is convinced that his country should arm itself.

Recently, a military delegation from Libya showed up in Beirut with a promise to supply Lebanon with weapons. And just days ago, according to our sources, the Syrians promised to help Beirut repel the Israelis.

Israel has publicly vowed if Lebanon accepts arms, they will retaliate with vengeance. On recent bombing raids over Lebanon, Israeli pilots ran into intense ground fire, including missiles shot from shoulder-fired Strella launchers, which are manufactured in Russia.

Now the intelligence analysts are pondering whether Israel will make good on its threat.

# The CIA and freedom

© 1974 by Peter Peckarsky  
On December 22, 1974, Americans gained a better appreciation of how close we came to losing our democratic form of government under the Nixon Administration.

That Sunday, Pulitzer Prize winner Seymour Hersh of *The New York Times* reported that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which is forbidden by law from having any domestic law enforcement

### Neighborly Dispute

There is some territory off the coast of Maine which has been claimed by both the United States and Canada since 1783. So far, the dispute has been a gentlemanly debate.

A few years ago, however, Canada began issuing "exploration permits" to oil companies. Some of the world's largest firms, including Texaco and Mobil, are probing the area. Then, about a year ago, the US Interior Department formally asked the oil companies for "indications of interest" in the same area.

As long as both nations are merely exploring for oil, there will be little conflict. Should there be a strike, however, there may well be sparks flying between Washington and Ottawa.

### Washington Whirl

Apparently concerned over the bad image the White House "plumbers" team has given the pipe-fitting profession, the American-Standard plumbing supply firm has hired a public relations company to spread the word that plumbers are really nice guys. The image-makers recently mailed out commemorative pewter plates emblazoned with a porcelain portrait of an antique water closet... Florida's Sen. elect Dick Stone ran on a post-Watergate "government in the sunshine" platform, vowing to remove his office door and boycott secret meetings. Ironically, his new home in Washington will be a Watergate apartment... After his conviction in the Watergate case, former Asst. Atty. Gen. Robert Mardian boarded a plane for Chicago, shouted at a stewardess who asked to see his boarding pass, then plopped down beside his wife and feigned indifference while she read about his case in the papers. When Mrs. Mardian dozed off, he grabbed up the papers and read the bitter news... Insiders at the Drug Enforcement Administration say the agency will erupt in scandal within weeks... Modern breweries use natural gas to dry the laquer on their beer cans and just two of them, say consumer experts, use enough fuel each year to supply the energy needs of a thousands families.



by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## The Tech

Since 1881

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# Ford retains Connally on staff despite indictment

© 1975 By Peter Peckarsky

The Ford Administration has allowed a former Cabinet Secretary, indicted by a Watergate grand jury, to remain in a sensitive government position.

Former Treasury Secretary John B. Connally has maintained his position and security clearances as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB), even though he was indicted on July 24, 1974, by a Washington, DC, grand jury directed by the Watergate special/prosecution force. The former Texas governor has been charged with two counts of accepting an illegal payment, one count of conspiracy to commit perjury and obstruct justice, and two counts of making a false declaration before a grand jury.

Connally's indictment resulted from a special prosecution investigation of illegal contributions to the 1972 Nixon re-election campaign by the American Milk Producers Association and other dairy industry groups. Connally, a Democrat-turned-Republican who was known as a good friend of the late President Johnson, headed the "Democrats for Nixon" campaign group in 1972.

The PFIAB, which meets on the first Thursday and Friday of alternate months, is charged with advising "the President concerning the objectives, conduct, management, and coordination of the various activities making up the overall national intelligence effort" and with conducting "a continuing review and assessment of foreign intelligence and related activities which the Central Intelligence Agency and other government departments and agencies are engaged." According to PFIAB Executive Secretary Wheaton Byers, Connally last attended a meeting of the board on February, 1974, and received the standard \$200 salary, plus payments for transportation and other expenses for his attendance at the meeting.

On April 17, 1973, former President Richard M. Nixon, as part of the attempted Watergate coverup, declared the following policy for his Administration with respect to government service by indicted persons: "If any person in the Executive Branch, or in the government is indicted by the grand jury, my policy will be to immediately suspend him. If he is convicted he will, of course, be automatically

discharged." This policy was never tested, as all indicted Nixon aides had left their government jobs prior to being indicted. But the policy remained in effect until Nixon's resignation in August, 1974.

Various White House sources were contacted in an effort to determine the Ford Administration policy with respect to employment of indicted persons.

Deputy Presidential Press Secretary John W. Hushen confirmed that President Ford knows of the Connally situation and has not done anything about it. Counselor to the President Phillip W. Buchen told this reporter that he was checking into the matter and knew of no established Ford policy. Buchen refused phone calls on Thursday and Friday of last week, and his office would not say if Buchen's "checking" process had been completed.

Connally was unavailable for comment, but his personal secretary in his Houston office confirmed that he has not resigned his post on the PFIAB. His secretary added that any further comment would be inappropriate.

Because the PFIAB oversees the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), an effort

was made to determine what effect an indictment would have on the employment and security clearances of an agency employee. A CIA spokesman, who asked not to be identified, stated that the CIA had no policy on the question, because no CIA employee had ever been indicted while in the employ of the agency. The spokesman said that the CIA Legal Counsel's office had advised him that the action taken if an agency employee were indicted would depend on the nature of the crime. He indicated that an indictment for vehicular homicide would not be considered as serious as an indictment for passing classified material to a foreign agent. The spokesman refused to comment on what steps the agency would take if the employee was indicted for perjury.

## CIA and freedom

(Continued from page 4)

been done by the Special Operations Division of the CIA's Counterintelligence Branch.

Counterintelligence could loosely be defined as the attempt to foil the activities of foreign intelligence services which are attempting to gather information about one's own nation (e.g. the details of a weapon system) or to disrupt the operation of one's own intelligence service (e.g. placing a foreign spy within the CIA). There is no prohibition in US laws which would preclude the CIA from performing this function outside the US. Inside the US, the counterintelligence mission with respect to civilians is within the exclusive jurisdiction of the FBI. Although the CIA and FBI may conduct joint operations abroad, the CIA at home is limited to furnishing information to the FBI upon which that latter agency can act.

The main questions as of this writing are: 1) Who authorized the alleged illegal CIA activity; and 2) Why did the person or persons authorizing the alleged illegal activity do so?

Former President Richard Nixon may have authorized the activity either for political purposes (i.e. to stifle dissidents' anti-war and anti-Administration views and activities) or because he could no longer control the FBI.

Richard Helms, then CIA Director and current US Ambassador to Iran, could have ordered that activity by himself although it seems unlikely that Helms would have acted without approval from either Nixon or Secretary of State and National Security Advisor to the President Henry Kissinger. The legislation giving the CIA its charter contains a catch-all phrase which gives the CIA Director the mission of protecting intelligence sources and methods. At times, the CIA has used this authority to justify just about anything including its involvement in Watergate. Thus, Helms may have felt that he had to act to protect his sources against domestic threats he perceived to the Agency's operation.

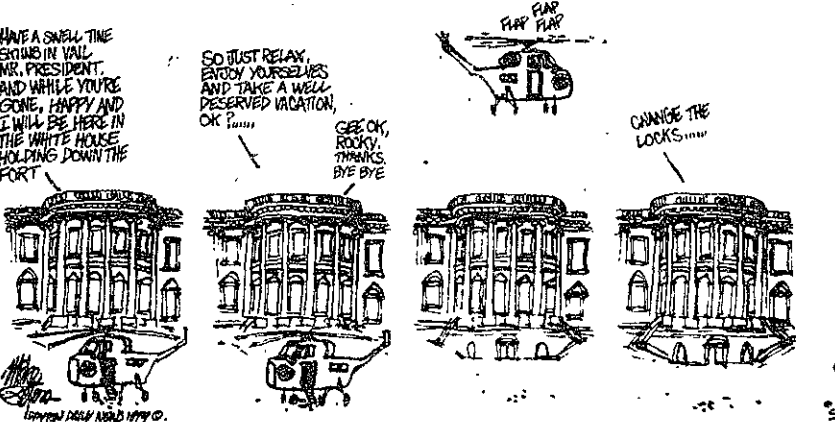
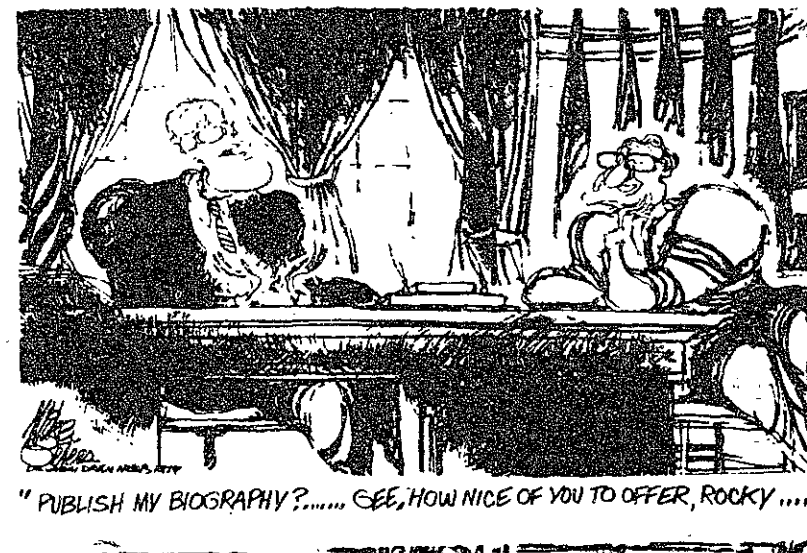
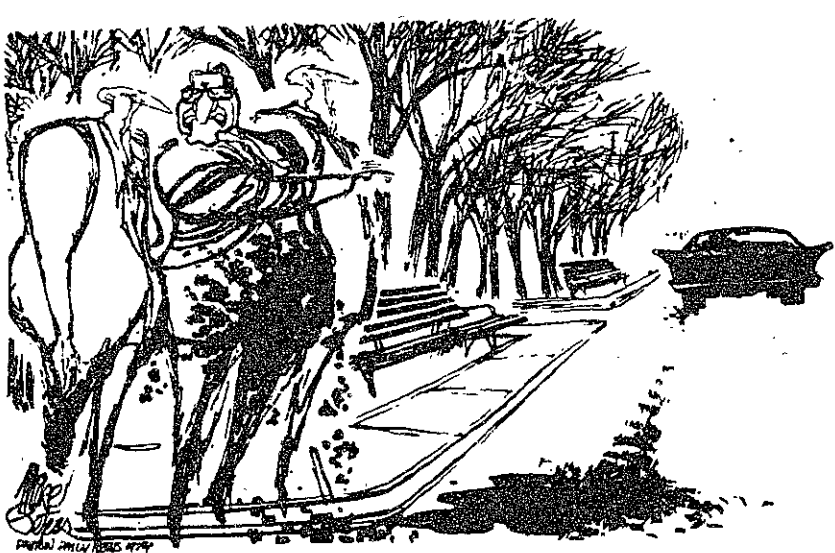
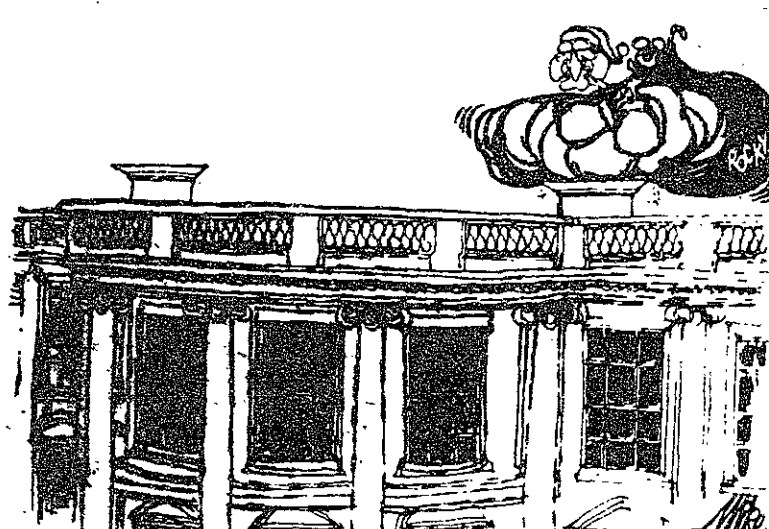
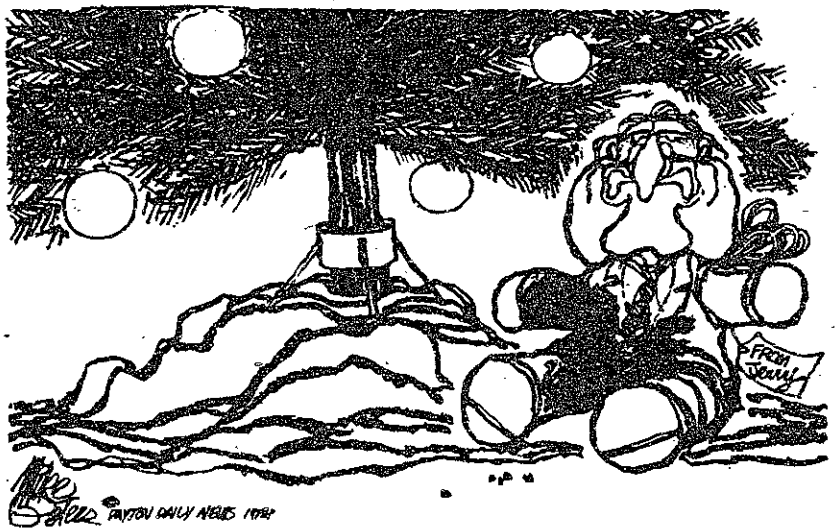
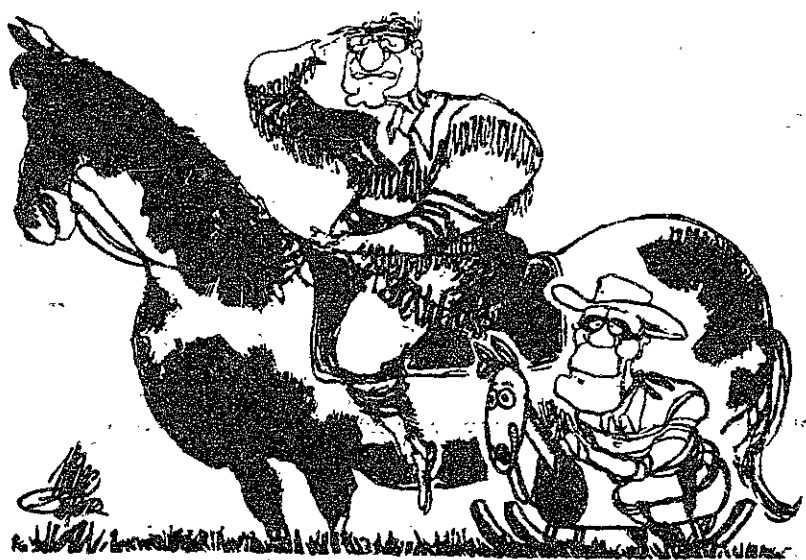
The final and most shocking explanation is that James Angleton, Director of CIA Counterintelligence until he resigned the day after Hersh's article appeared, may have decided to undertake the illegal activity by himself. Angleton's job was to protect the CIA from infiltration by foreign intelligence services. Thus, he was in a position to accuse anyone within the CIA and perhaps anyone within the US Government of being a foreign intelligence agent. If Angleton set up the Special Operations division, allowed no one to have access to it whom Angleton didn't trust, and then explicitly or implicitly threatened the curious with the loss of their jobs, he may have been able to set up his own secret police force.

If the allegations are true, it is obvious that the checks and balances which were supposed to restrain the CIA failed. Why?

Apparently the scandal finally came to light because younger members of the intelligence community finally blew the whistle on Angleton's operation apparently by talking to Hersh. It is unfortunate that it was necessary to go outside of the formal apparatus to correct this abuse. Yet it is fortunate that the First Amendment protects the freedom of the press which made possible the revelation of the illegal activity and insured that Hersh could guarantee to his sources anonymity and hence freedom from reprisals in the form of rapid unemployment.

## The Selling of the Vice Presidency, 1974?

In (Belated) Honor of the Accession of Nelson A. Rockefeller to the Vice Presidency of the United States





# THE TECH ARTS SECTION

## Flicking around Boston: an IAP guide

By Paul Schindler

Independent Activities Period is as good a time to catch up on your movie viewing, if you are inclined to such pursuits. There are several quality pictures in town, if the \$3.50-\$4.00 ticket price doesn't scare you off. Some films, at selected showings, are slightly less, but don't bet on it.

Newspaper listings of film times are not always the most accurate, but at least check the dailies, rather than the weeklies. And even better yet, call the theater for confirmation of show times.

The pick of the current Boston movie crop, in capsule form and approximate quality order (in this reviewer's opinion) follows.

### GREAT

#### Scenes from A Marriage

It's really too bad this three-hour film was originally six half-hour television episodes, because otherwise it would have a clear shot at the kind of cinematic honors (an Oscar for instance) that it so clearly deserves.

Ingmar Bergman has written and directed a film about getting together, staying together, and breaking up that strikes close to home with everyone who has experienced such a relationship.



Liv Ullmann

Liv Ullmann turns in what must be called a compelling performance, to drag out that overused adjective, as the flushee in a classic "I've found someone I like better" splitup. The exposition of her workable marriage has been so deftly handled that, if you were not forewarned by reviews, you might wonder at the breakup.

If you seek frothy entertainment and sugar coated reality, avoid *Scenes* like the plague — it is definitely neither. On the other hand, if you have ever experienced a serious relationship that has somehow failed, and feel that your situation was unique, by all means go and see it. You will gain insights into the non-uniqueness of your situation, and perhaps even a better understanding as to why it happened.

At the Exeter

#### Godfather II

The overrated but still excellent Francis Ford Coppola sequel to *The Godfather* is expensive (ticket-wise) and long, but for most avid movie-goers probably falls into the "must-see" category of films that you'll probably go to because everyone else you know has seen it.

As everyone else has said in their reviews, it fills you in on Don Vito Corleone's (Marlon Brando in the first film) past and takes you closer to the present as Michael Corleone moves his family to Nevada, where he (Al Pacino, in a fine performance) buys a senator and loses a wife.

The valid question is "who cares," and in fact, if you did not see the better and shorter original, you probably won't be much interested in this film.

If you did, invest the three hours and 15 minutes into getting a better balanced picture of the Corleones. What you'll end up watching is lavishly photographed,



Lemmon and Matthau in "The Front Page"

easier to follow (at least for me), somewhat engaging entertainment.

At the Savoy

#### The Front Page

The Billy Wilder remake of this stage and screen classic is a laugh-filled couple of hours of snappy one-liners, cynical journalists and stupid police. A parable for our age.

I must admit at the outset a certain weakness for stories about journalism, and fond feelings for any film with either Jack Lemmon or Walter Matthau, so this film had a lot going for it before it started.

I was not disappointed, and you won't be either. If you went to *Gatsby* to see the period atmosphere, you'll like *Front Page* for the same reasons. If you like the play, you'll like the film for its fidelity to the original.

If you have ever wondered what things are really like in the news business, this film will give you an idea. While everything and everyone is blown to mythical proportion, the basic traits, standards, and behavior patterns are not far from the standard in the industry today. Which is more an indictment of the media than praise for the film.

At the Circle

#### Murder on the Orient Express

It won't open in Boston until Friday, but *Murder* is worth the wait. Everything reviewers have said about it is true.

Sometimes lavish superstar films are a drag — if you saw "How the West was Won" last week on TV, you know how badly this sort of thing can be done. But some people, like John Brabourne and Richard Goodwin, the producers of this version of a venerable Agatha Christie mystery, have figured out how to make the stars work together to make a truly worthwhile, watchable, breath-taking film.

The stars: Lauren Bacall, Martin Balsam, Ingrid Bergman, Jacqueline Bisset, Jean Pierre Cassel, Sean Connery, Albert Finney, John Gielgud, Wendy Hiller, Anthony Perkins, Vanessa Redgrave, Rachel Roberts, Richard Widmark, and Michael York.

Each and every actor is directed with such restraint that one is left with the sensation of a massive throbbing engine, straining to break into a massive acting overkill which never comes. However, this film's plot has enough tension without the crackle of the acting.

Friday, at the Cinema 57

#### Young Frankenstein

Taste has come to the work of Mel Brooks. The madman of *Blazing Saddles* fame has constructed an hilarious tapestry of visual and verbal humor in the much-abused parody field.

Brooks took on the highly stylized black and white horror film of the 30's, and came up with *Young Frankenstein*,

which is funnier even than *The Producers* or *Saddles*.

While *Saddles* was marked with moments of embarrassment and infantile humor which periodically overwhelmed its basically funny premise and characters, in *Frankenstein*, with few exceptions, we see restraint amidst the hilarity.

A virtuoso performance by Gene Wilder as Frankenstein and Peter Boyle as the monster (lovingly referred to as "Old Zipper Neck") removes any need for the script to stoop or reach for humor. Humor rolls, in laughter-filled waves, from the situation, and just as surely rolls back to the screen from highly entertained audiences. It is destined to become a humor classic.

At the Pi Alley

#### Not so great films

##### Earthquake

A slightly flawed film in human terms, but an otherwise fascinating story about what's going to happen to all those silly Southern Californians when LA finally tumbles down in the big quake.

This is not a film to see for the acting, although there is some of it, in my opinion. It depends on what you think of Charlton Heston, around whom the film revolves, when it's not shaking.

The effects are superb and a great deal of fun to watch. They probably spent a bundle, but they had to pull this off, and it was worth it. "Sensurround," which my experts assure me is not faithful to the actual feeling of an earthquake (at least, not to the 1971 LA earthquake), is nevertheless one hell of an effect, which makes up in obnoxiousness what it may lack in realism. Its primary effect on me was to make me wish it would stop, and I'm sure that's what most people think during an earthquake.

If you ever felt any desire to move to Los Angeles and at the same time wanted to stop yourself, this film will help. I won't even go for a visit.

In the boonies — Framingham

##### Lenny

I guess it's time Lenny Bruce got his due, and Dustin Hoffman's portrayal of him in the film *Lenny* is probably the most important step in the Bruce boomlet, which saw two theater versions of his life playing New York last year at the same time.

The tragedy is, there all the time, especially since most of the language he used in his nightclub act would be tame in movie theaters today. Admittedly "cocksucker" is not in most people's everyday vocabulary, but it's a lot harder to get arrested for saying it in public now than it was in the early sixties.

People said Bruce got boring towards the end, when his busts for indecent language and his heroin addiction got the best of him. The film portrays that so well that it, too, gets boring in the end. In fact, the film drags some in the middle

and the beginning too. But if you've never seen or heard any of his act (the case with me before this film) you owe it to yourself to see the work of a pioneer.

At the Cheri

#### Odessa File

Once again, we have the journalist as hero, which is the basic appeal to me of this Jon Voight romp through Germany where he, the ever-vigilant fourth estate freelancer, tracks down unrepentant Nazi war-criminal-types.

The film is a mystery, with Voight's job as a journalist being merely incidental, except that it lends credibility to the fact that he needs to be supported by his strip-teaser girl friend (this business doesn't pay much). She, in turn, attempts to keep him from doing anything dangerous and complains about his odd hours and habits. It breaks up the monotony.

The weakness of the journalist link is not the only aspect of the film which leaves me uneasy. With the exception of Voight, the acting is marginal. The drama, when it occurs, is trumped up, and while the search for Nazis makes an interesting documentary (and the whole thing is supposedly based on an actual plot to nuke Israel) it doesn't do much as entertainment.

At Loew's Abbey

#### Harold and Maude

I ran into this cult flick a few years ago, when I had intended to see something else, but noticed Bud Cort (the unsung bright spot of the otherwise dismal failure *Brewster McCloud*). Since I had heard nothing of this film, I assumed he was signed up on another turkey.

You can imagine my surprise when the thing resurfaced, especially since it happens to be one entertaining piece of cinema. Not a great film, certainly not uplifting or possessed of any deep message, but certainly a fun way to kill an evening or afternoon.

You can watch Bud and Ruth Gordon (playing a woman in her 80's to Bud's 20's) have an affair (serious) while he drives his mother crazy (funny), all to music by Cat Stevens. If you are like most people, you'll figure out where it's going early on, but you're also likely to fall in love with it, as so many repeat customers have. It has the indefinable aura that makes an otherwise blah film seem great to some.

At the Allston

#### Blah Films

There are, of course, more blah films than these, but I list only the ones you might accidentally be attracted to through mistaken word of mouth or some unfortunate misunderstanding.

If you like films a lot, as I do, you occasionally feel that tug which says you should go see some foreign films. Broaden yourself. Get some culture. But don't bother with *Amarcord*. The film title means "I remember," but you can forget it. If that's what Fellini remembers, it was a damn dull life, and there's no use in you being bored by it too.

They have their uses, as I try to make clear, but since I was in the unaccustomed position of having to pay to see them, I can honestly say I didn't get my money's worth. Even Steve McQueen and Paul Newman cannot totally rescue the film it took two studios to produce. *The Towering Inferno*, despite the presence of these and other humans, stars a remarkably realistic model of a skyscraper and fires on 50 movie sets. People are incidental. Special effects freaks and pyromaniacs are welcome.

Then of course, there is *Airport 75*. I never saw *Airport*, so I can't make any comparisons, but standing on its own the film is, as someone else has already put it, a two-hour commercial for the 747. Cardboard characters in a plane seemingly made of tinfoil. The special effects, while undoubtedly expensive and well planned, leave me rather cold — just like the passengers on the plane.



## Duly Noted

Just after my column of December 10, Walter Lippman died. He, Frazier, and the Alsop brothers were the closest to an aristocracy journalism has had. They were not the last of a breed, they were the breed. Not enough people in the business write intelligently while taking the long view. They did and are justly famous for doing so.

Believing in this elite, I approached Stewart Alsop's *Stay of Execution*, a sort of memoir (Lippincott, 296 pp) with the fear of seeing an idol with clay feet. Writings about death tend to be mawkish, and I find literary sentimentality more obscene than Susan-Robbins exploitation epics. The fear was unfounded. Alsop writes simply of his voyage to Thanatos with no frantic attempts at self-justification, merely perturbation at being removed. He faces the certainty of a horrible death with the calm acceptance of the classic gentleman, living each day to the fullest. To hope that he will be missed is too trusting — the world just does not work that way. To say we need his intellectual aristocracy is too true to need defense.

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On the other hand *Body Count*, William Turner Hughett (Dell, 445 pp, \$1.75) suffers from rectal/cranial inversion. A piece of trite claptrap, mildly mitigated by its treatment of race relations during the late fiasco in South East Asia, this idiocy praises the most asinine holdovers from our animal past. Hughett portrays barbarism, hate, and murder as the finest examples of manhood. While I believe in heroism I do not equate it with the swaggering, blood-clawed machismo of a John Wayne propaganda film. *Body Count* indubitably deserves the Segal-Robbins Award this year.

\*\*\*

Listening to my eight-month-old twin brothers whom I saw for the first time this trip home, I concluded that the trouble with America today is that not enough people complain when something displeases them. We have become so damned afraid of hurting somebody's feelings that we are subject to a tyranny of the inept, an overpaid underworked elite of the incompetent. For example, when was the last time you sent something back to the kitchen at a restaurant because the dish was poorly prepared?

There was a chain of pizza stands across Indiana, stretching from Indianapolis northward. They served a relatively decent product, originally. Over the years, however, they managed to lose or get rid of most of their original help, replacing them with hillbillies. I have nothing against natives of West Virginia and Kentucky, except they do not know how to make pizza.

People continued to patronize the chain, although the staff had some interesting habits. For instance, if they burned the product (a fairly common occurrence) they would take the blackened dough from the bottom of the pizza and sprinkle it over the top. The logic of their action escapes me almost as much as the sense of the people who complained about these practices but continued to patronize the chain is beyond my comprehension.

The Endemic is not merely confined to restaurants. In August, 1973, a large department store initiated a proposal to remodel the kitchen of my father's home. When I arrived home on December 17, 1974, work was continuing on the kitchen, much to the discomfort of the family. Work on the damned thing had not started until August 1974. The original cabinets were not only of shoddy materials and workmanship but were incompetently installed and had to be reinstalled at the store's expense. Do you know who ultimately pays for this incompetence? The consumer in higher prices at the department store. The tyranny of the inept strikes again.

The cure for the endemic is as simple as it is obvious. You were born — I hope — with a pair of hind legs and a couple of healthy lungs. Use them. When you pay for a service you have every right to demand that it is done as quickly and competently as possible. Bitch a little. If nothing else it is good exercise and you may save the country from creeping passivism. Happy New Year.

— Thomas J. Spisak, Jr.

## A Voyage to Dari



### A VOYAGE TO DARI

by Ian Wallace

DAW Books, 239 pp, \$1.25

Whatever Neanderthal invented the superman, his ghost has reason to be proud. He has bequeathed to storytellers a theme guaranteed to enthrall and amaze any audience, a theme that promises tale after incredible tale of the marvelous exploits of a man above all other men. Unfortunately, the theme is impossible to execute successfully. The topflight writers who try stumble badly and the bottom blight produce howling idiocies.

Ian Wallace, in his "Croyd" series, has done better than most. He produces novels that are good enough for an evening's enjoyment but that are unrewarding for those who expect more from a novel.

Wallace's superman is a telepathic, telekinetic, time traveller named Croyd. In *A VOYAGE TO DARI* he sends Croyd to the backward, paradisiacal planet Dari. Utopian Dari has been invaded and corrupted by the imperialist, feudal Moudjinn, with whom she shares a sun. Croyd's mission is to take control as planetary governor of Dari, drive out the marauding Moudjinnians, restore the cultural pride of the Darians, and fade quietly into the sunset.

Trouble strikes en route to Dari. Duke Dzendzel of Moudjinn, whose powers almost equal Croyd's, invades and disables Croyd's mind, leaving him an ordinary man, unable to impress his friends by learning Russian in ten minutes. Dzendzel captures Croyd, casts his ship adrift in metaspaces, and imprisons him in his stronghold in the metagalactic fissure.

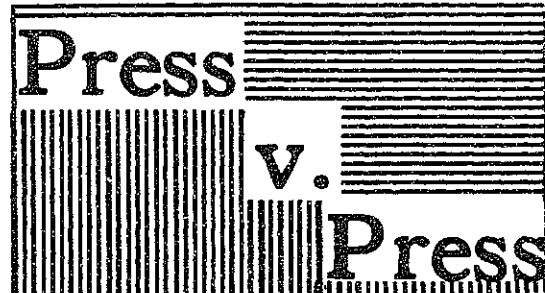
Croyd eventually gains the upper hand by subverting Dzendzel's number one vassal, a strange creature named Childe Roland. With Roland's help, Croyd takes command of a vast analogical brain, resident in the fissure, defeats Dzendzel, rescues his ship, and finds a great hope for Dari's on the horizon.

Wallace somehow works in a sexual relationship between Croyd and the beautiful Darian princess, Djeelian. Because of the flashback scheme of Wallace's exposition, couched in the time travel jargon he developed in the earlier novels of the series, this encounter seems to last the entire length of the novel.

Wallace has learned well the only two workable handles to the superman theme: either to present ubermensch with an equally superfoe or to contrive some way of de-supering him for the duration of the conflict. Otherwise the story will be no fun, since the superman will be far ahead of any conceivable situation. Croyd is too transcendent to have much personality, I never found myself empathizing with him. His doppelgange, produced earlier by clever time-play, who figures marginally in the plot, but voluminously in the dialog, with his unending worries about his own identity, is a far more human character. The most carefully developed character is a computer named (shades of HAL9000!) Chloris, who continually wonders if she is in fact alive and intelligent.

*VOYAGE TO DARI* is fair for light reading. If you want to read a well-executed novel on the superman theme, write it first. Good luck.

Alan C. Wechsler



### OF THE PRESS, BY THE PRESS, FOR THE PRESS (And Others Too)

By the staff of *The Washington Post*, Dell, 237 pp. \$3.95

Spiro Agnew was probably one of the first Americans to raise press criticism to a political issue, but he didn't, as he would have wanted us to believe, initiate the art. Self-criticism of the press, as well as reasoned criticism from outside the newspaper establishment, has been a tradition in America for decades, dating back at least to A.J. Liebling and Walter Lippmann in the 1920's and 1930's. While critics have had their ups and downs, the tradition of criticism has continued since.

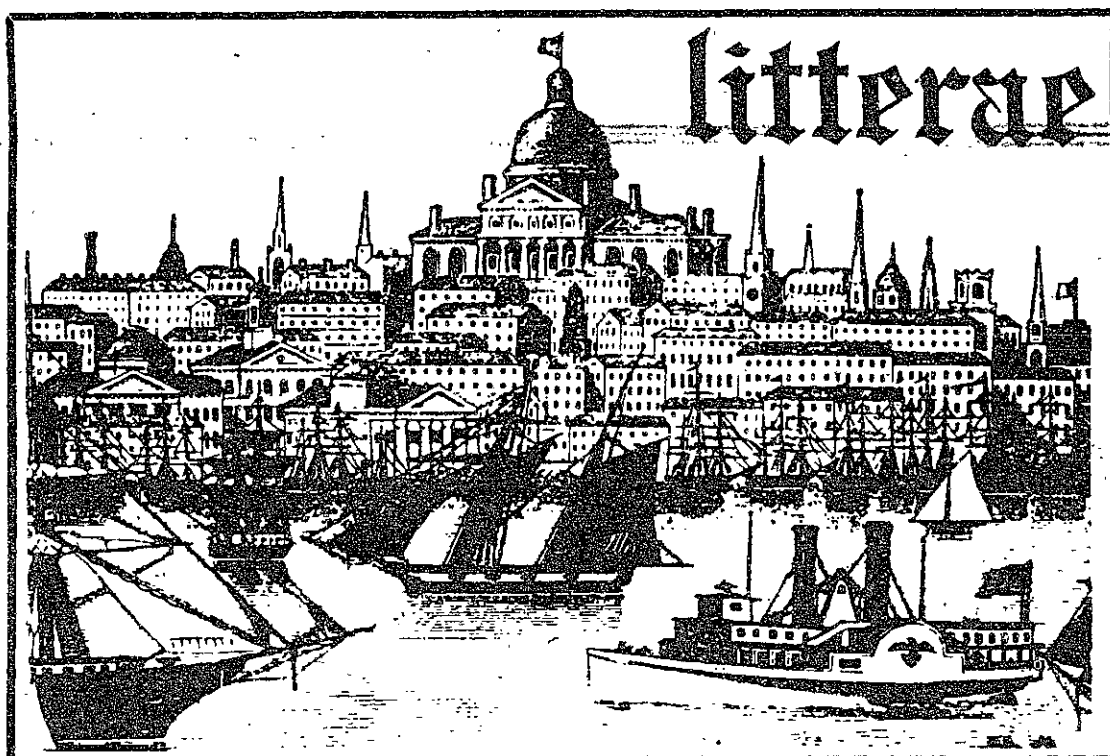
Only recently, however, has the press (or "media," if you prefer) found it necessary to institutionalize this tradition. Journalism reviews, ombudsmen, reader and viewer commentary spaces, and a variety of other efforts have been used to allow discussion of what is wrong with the press, where it can be improved, and what its role in society should be. This book, *Of the Press, By the Press, For the Press*, is, in a way, the story of the efforts by one paper, the *Washington Post*, to establish an ombudsman system for criticism of the paper's work.

The book consists of a collection of internal memos, columns, and ombudsman reports, reflecting complaints against stories published, criticisms of how stories are covered and written, and discussions of how the *Post* should go about its task of producing a daily newspaper. They provide a view of a controversial system which has had debatable success in affecting the quality of the paper that would be hard to obtain in any other way.

One can approach this book in two ways: either as the story of an attempt to institutionalize press criticism, or as a valuable, if somewhat limited, primer on the issues that some of the best reporters and editors in the country feel are important to their business. In the latter sense, this is one of the best introductions one could find to a variety of journalistic issues ranging from bias to background briefings, use of "source" stories, and the conflict of rights that occurs when the First Amendment rights of the press meet with the rights of accused criminals, public officials, private citizens, and others. It is in this latter sense that I recommend this book.

Understanding of the function of the press in America today seems to be in short supply. This book provides an interesting introduction to an area of knowledge that many citizens today could profit from studying.

By Mike McNamee



## A guide to SciFi

### Science Fiction Reader's Guide

by L. David Allen

Centennial Press Paperbacks, 295pp

Those of you who have been immersed in Science Fiction for life will smirk at this guide. I did at first. I then decided that there was a place for this book besides the notorious circular file.

Allen categorizes Science Fiction as Hard (extrapolated science), Soft (extrapolated sociology), and Fantasy (alternative science). He proceeds to comment on some all time winners as examples. These include *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, *The Time Machine*, *The Foundation Trilogy*, *Rite of Passage* and eleven other famous stories. Commentary consists of non-chronological plot summary and telling why this particular story was chosen for the Guide.

Before and after these summaries are sections which tell how to approach a science fiction story. Does everyone remember their high school literature? We here have a capsule review of an outline of such a course.

I promised to tell you where to put this book, the junior high or high school

mentality virgin to Science Fiction. If such a creature exists, he has probably been kept away by Big Eyed Monsters. Here is a sympathetic build up to some of the great science fiction. It is simple minded and takes five times as long as Harlan Ellison would to say such things, but to the uninitiated it may be palatable.

Another nice feature for the novice is a listing of award (Hugo and Nebula) winning stories, added to a selected author list with some of the better known stories. This might help the newly converted from hitting a string of turkeys right away. It isn't fool proof; Farnham's *Freehold* made the Heinlein list. But then who's perfect?

The other potential readers will be those who like to know what a book is all about before reading it. Also people who like to read about their own good taste will probably like this.

The one undeniably positive portion of the book is that Allen is teaching science fiction in a university. It is put forward therefore with the spirit that science fiction is expanding and improving its image and itself.

David Shepard

# Sports

## Basketball wins 4 of 5

By Lawrence D. David and  
Glenn Brownstein

The combination of the Florida sun and the absence of schoolwork rejuvenated MIT's varsity basketball team, as the Engineers swept three games on their annual IAP southern trip and then returned home to overwhelm Lowell Tech 85-48 Monday night after a 22-point loss to RPI on Saturday.

MIT overcame a faster, hot-shooting, and talented Eckerd College quintet 81-78 in St. Petersburg on January 7. Not having practiced in a month, Coach Fran O'Brien's Engineers went through four days of double workouts. Their hard work paid off, as a swarming, tenacious defense, strong rebounding, and disciplined game control gave the Engineers a 62-44 lead with 15:31 left in the contest. MIT subsequently fell apart, making numerous mistakes against Eckerd's diamond-and-one trap press and allowing the Tritons to tie the score at 72-all on a Paul O'Halloran jumper at the 4:15 mark.

However, O'Halloran, Eckerd's top player, committed his fifth foul only twelve seconds later. John Cavolowsky '76 sunk the two charity tosses to put the Engineers back in front and then clutch foul shooting by captain Al Epstein '75 and Peter Maimonis '77, and a foul shot and basket by Peter Jackson '76 iced the victory.

MIT leading scorer, Cam Lange '76, tore the nets for 31 points, while Jackson popped in 18, hauled down ten rebounds, and frustrated O'Halloran with excellent defense. The total team effort and hard work

added up to a satisfying win that snapped the Engineers' four-game losing streak.

The next day, MIT travelled to St. Augustine and outclassed Flagler, 71-55. Flagler ran its offense poorly and shot only one free throw in the game. Lange tallied 20 points, while Jackson and Maimonis added 16 and 14, respectively.

On Thursday, MIT opened up a 66-54 bulge with 4:07 to play against a Florida Institute of Technology team averaging 6'8" in the front court. Another late-game lapse allowed FIT to score the final twelve points of regulation time and force the contest into an extra period. The Engineers managed to turn around in the overtime, though, outscoring FIT 11-3 for a 77-69 win.

Lange and Maimonis each scored 21 points, the 21 points representing a career high for Maimonis. Jackson added 14 points while pulling down 18 rebounds, and Epstein tossed in 17 points and assisted on ten baskets more. Despite FIT's substantial height advantage, the Engineers battled their opponents evenly on the boards, and committed only eleven turnovers in the game, a record low for the team.

The rugged schedule (four games in five days) affected MIT on Saturday afternoon, as the Engineers' winning streak ended with an 84-62 loss to RPI in Troy.

It was the first time this year that the varsity had been blown out of a game early, as RPI, aided by 16 MIT turnovers in the first ten minutes, opened up a 28-8 lead. The Engineers closed the gap to twelve at the half, but a 14-3 RPI burst to

open the second half put the game away.

On Monday night, the varsity reacted to the familiar Rockwell Cage surroundings by routing Lowell Tech by 37 points. Major factors in the one-sided victory were hot Engineer shooting (51%) and a substantial rebounding advantage.

Although Lowell Tech is one of the better New England squads this year, the Terrier five was made to look helpless by the fast-moving Engineer offense and excellent team defense.

Jackson and Lange each scored 24 points and shot over 60%, Jackson adding 14 rebounds to the MIT cause. The team also got help from its subs, as benchwarmers Gerry Adolph '75 and Marc Thompson '75 played strong, aggressive games.

The Engineers now sport a 5-5 record this year, their five wins matching the team's entire victory total in each of the last two seasons. MIT journeys to Trinity Saturday night before returning to the Cage Monday to face Wesleyan.



Engineer captain Loren Dessonville '75 has the advantage over Springfield's Sean Bilodeau in Saturday's 40-9 loss to the Indians. Although Dessonville gained the early lead in his bout, Bilodeau struggled back to even the match and eventually emerged with a 10-7 win.

## Wrestlers trounced by Springfield, 40-9

The MIT Varsity and JV wrestling teams were defeated last Saturday by New England's number one ranked team, Springfield College by scores of 40-9 and 21-0 respectively. The Springfield meet was the toughest one of MIT's schedule and the Engineers can now look forward to more successful performances in the remaining twelve meets.

The Varsity won/loss record stands at 2-2, and only one wrestler remains undefeated, co-captain Jack Mosinger '75. Against Springfield, Mosinger, wrestling at 118 lbs. displayed his expertise by pinning his opponent in 1:49; his personal record is now 4-0.

Springfield received six team points at 126 lbs. as MIT as unable to fill the class. At the 134 and 142-pound classes, Jody Silver '77 and Farrell Peternal '77 both lost by falls to the Springfield opponents.

Steve Brown '77 lost a superior decision at 150 lbs., while freshman Milton Royce, wrestling in his first varsity meet, was pinned in the 158 lbs. class. Both MIT wrestlers were competing two classes above their normal weight divisions. At 167 lbs., Peter Haag G was pinned by

Springfield's co-captain and potential National champion Nick Porillo.

MIT's co-captain Loren Dessonville '75 lost a close match at 177 lbs. to Sean Bilodeau. Dessonville scored a takedown in the first 30 seconds of the match, yet, after a see-saw battle, Bilodeau was able to eke out a 10-7 victory. At 190 lbs., Darwin Fleischaker '78 lost a decision to Mike Fiore of Springfield.

At heavyweight, Erland von Lidth de Jeude '75 wrestled Springfield's other co-captain and beat him by one point in an exciting match. Erland drew cheers from the crowd when he scored a second period neutral by using a Grambi roll, a difficult move for a 340 pound man.

The Junior Varsity, composed of Ken Lesley '78, Mike Harlan '78, Herman Marshall '78 and David Ziegelheim '75 were unable to post a win despite several good efforts. Last year's star Ed Hanley '74 wrestled an exciting exhibition match with Springfield's excellent 126 pounder, Vic Buehler, and beat him 10-6. Hanley had won the MIT open Christmas tournament at 126 and received the Most Valuable Wrestler award.

## Alumni tops track; Lau, Hill lead effort

By Dave Dobos

Albert Lau '72, Walter Hill '73, and Dave Wilson '73 combined for over half of their team's score to lead the MIT alumni to a 60-53 upset of the MIT varsity track team in this fall's alumni/varsity competition.

The victory for the Has-Beens avenged last spring's 78-76 heart-breaking loss to the varsity at Briggs Field.

However, considering that the varsity was somewhat undermanned due to injuries and early Christmas departures, it did quite well, managing firsts in seven of 13 events.

Rich Okine '77 was the varsity star with 11½ points, posting victories in the 50 yard dash and high hurdles and running a leg of the winning 8-lap relay team. Co-captain Gary Wilkes '75 scored in four events for 8½ points, while Mike Ryan '76 took a first in the 600, a third in the triple jump, and anchored the winning relay team. Reid von Borstel '78, Fred Bunke '78, and George Braun '75 also captured firsts for the varsity.

Lau led all alumni scorers with 14 points, winning the broad jump and placing second in three other events. Hill, the IM cross country champ, captured the mile and two mile, and Wilson scored in three events, including a victory in his specialty, the pole vault. Rounding out the alumni triumphs were Gordon DeWitte '67 who heaved the weight an amazing 54 feet and Yaw Akoto '74, who

won the triple jump. Also scoring well for the alumni were Sumner Brown '66 and Mike Oliver '65. Retired MIT track mentor Art Farnham coached his former athletes to victory.

The loss evens the varsity's record at 2-2. To begin its IAP schedule, MIT hosts Williams and Tufts this Saturday at Rockwell Cage.

### Summary of Events:

Shot Put: 1-Bunke (V); 2-Wilkes (V); 3-DeWitte (A); 46'¾"  
35 lb. Weight Throw: 1-DeWitte (A); 2-Pearson (A); 3-Lundberg (V) 54'3½"  
High Jump: 1-von Borstel (V); 2-Lau (A); 3-Edelman (V); 6'  
Broad Jump: 1-Lau (A); 2-Wilson (A); 3-Wilkes (V); 21'1¼"  
Triple Jump: 1-Akoto (A); 2-Lau (A); 3-Ryan (V); 43'1½"  
Pole Vault: 1-Wilson (A); 2-Rich (A); 3-Brooks (A); 14'6"  
High Hurdles: 1-Okine (V); 2-Lau (A); 3-Hall (A); 6.1  
50 Yard Dash: 1-Okine (V); 2-Wilkes (V); 3-Wilson (A); 5.7  
600 Yard Run: 1-Ryan (V); 2-Banks (V); 3-Hansen (A); 1:18.9  
1000 Yard Run: 1-Braun (V); 2-Kimball (A); 3-McDougall (V); 2:27.7  
Mile: 1-Hill (A); 2-Brown (A); 3-Dillon (V); 4:38.3  
Two Mile: 1-Hill (A); 2-Reeves (V); 3-Oliver (A); 10:30.7  
8-Lap Relay: 1-Varsity (Wilkes, Banks, Okine, Ryan); 2-Alumni (Flink, Hansen, Kimball, Brown); 2:51.5

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